(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by Government thereon;

(e) whether it is also a fact that despite the inquiry report, the selection process is on; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

Development of Central universities on the pattern of IITs

50. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned to develop Central universities on the pattern of IITs in the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the necessary steps being taken by Government to make the above arrangements in all universities for choosing IIT by the poor educated youths in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (d) While the IITs function under the Institutes of Technology Act, the Central Universities function under the respective Acts with multiple disciplines. The focus of IITs is primarily to provide for instruction and research in the branches of engineering and technology. There is no proposal to develop Central universities on the pattern of IITs.

Suggestion of NKC

51. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Knowledge Commission has suggested setting up of 50 national universities in the country to improve and expand the higher education system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission these universities shall provide education of the highest standard on Semester System pattern, with admission on an all-India basis. The beginning is recommended to be made with establishment of 10 such universities in the next 3 years by the government or by a private sponsoring body. Significant initial allocation of funds and public land has also been recommended by the Commission.

Draft Approach Paper for Eleventh Five Year Plan

52. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released any draft approach paper for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that at present private aided and unaided schools account for 58 per cent of the total number of secondary schools;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the State Governments have nearly stopped increasing funding of public secondary schools and aided schools;

(f) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years; and

(g) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The approach paper on Eleventh Plan prepared by the Planning Commission has been approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 9.12.2006. The approach paper outlines the objectives and Targets of the Eleventh Plan and identifies the associated challenges and implications for the formulation of detailed strategies for the Eleventh Plan by the Centre and States. The moniterable Socio-Economic Targets for the Eleventh Plan identified in the Approach Paper are given in Statement-I (*See* below).